

Dear Friends in Christ,

Throughout this past year, your elders have been reading through a book entitled *“The Tender Commandments”* by Ron Mehl. I think it’s fair to say that one of the most misunderstood passages in all of Scripture is that of the Ten Commandments. Many people in our world today view these commandments as a restrictive list of ‘don’ts’ rather than a love message from God!

In the weeks to come we’re going to take a closer look at each of the commandments. Many of the illustrations I will be using will come directly from Mehl’s book. In addition, I’ll also make use of the Heidelberg Catechism which does an excellent job of summarizing the heart of each command. May God bless us as we make our way together through this important part of His Word!

In His Grace,  
Pastor John

1. Aug. 7 AM – *“Introduction to the Ten(der) Commandments”*
2. Aug. 14 AM – *“The Only God”*
3. Aug. 21 AM – *“The Pursuit of Empty Images”*
4. Aug. 28 AM – *“Honoring God’s Holy Name”*
5. Sept. 11 AM – *“Celebrating the Sabbath”*
6. Sept. 18 AM – *“Honoring Those in Authority Over Us”*
7. Sept. 25 AM – *“Loving Our Neighbor”*
8. Oct. 2 AM – *“Fencing Our Marriage”*
9. Oct. 9 AM – *“What About Stealing?”*
10. Oct. 16 AM – *“Taming Our Tongues”*
11. Oct. 23 AM – *“True Contentment”*

***Welcome to Mount Vernon  
First Christian Reformed Church!***

***Pastor John Knoester***

***July 17, 2022***

**Morning Service – 10:30 AM**

**\* Please stand in body or in spirit**

*“Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!  
Unimagined, all your ways!”*

Prelude

Welcome

**\* Call to Worship**

**Leader:** All who thirst, come to the water  
And drink deeply of these living streams.

**People:** **Come, all who are weary;  
come, all who yearn for forgiveness.**

**Leader:** Our gracious God beckons and blesses us.

**People:** **Let us give praise for new life in Christ!**

**\* Opening Song of Praise: LUYH #796 v. 1-3**

*“Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”*

1. Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!  
Rolling as a mighty ocean  
in its fullness over me!  
Underneath me, all around me,  
is the current of thy love—  
leading onward, leading homeward,  
to thy glorious rest above!

2. Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus—  
spread his praise from shore to shore!  
How he loves us, ever loves us,  
changes never, nevermore!  
How he watches o'er his loved ones,  
died to call them all his own;  
how for them he's interceding,  
watching o'er them from the throne!
  
3. Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
love of every love the best!  
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,  
'tis a haven sweet of rest!  
Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus—  
'tis a heaven of heavens to me;  
and it lifts me up to glory,  
for it lifts me up to thee!

Words: Samuel Trevor Francis, ca. 1890, alt., P.D.; Music: Ebenezer; Thomas J. Williams, 1890, P.D.; CCLI #678905

\* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

*"To your name be glory, honor!  
With our lives we worship, praise!"*

Announcements

Call to Confession (Based on Romans 8:39)

We know that nothing is able to separate us  
From the love of God in Jesus Christ.  
Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: (Based on Titus:4-8)

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,  
he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done,  
but before of his mercy.  
He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal  
by the Holy Spirit whom he poured out on us generously  
through Jesus Christ our Savior,  
so that, having been justified by his grace,  
we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

\* Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH #800 v. 1-3

*“What the Lord Has Done in Me”*

1. Let the weak say I am strong.  
Let the poor say I am rich.  
Let the blind say I can see.  
It’s what the Lord has done in me.

*Refrain x2*

*Hosanna, hosanna  
to the Lamb that was slain.  
Hosanna, hosanna,  
Jesus died and rose again.*

2. Into the river I will wade.  
There my sins are washed away.  
From the heaven’s mercy stream  
of the Savior’s love for me.

*Refrain x2*

3. I will rise from waters deep  
into the saving arms of God.  
I will sing salvation songs.  
Jesus Christ has set me free.

*Refrain x2*

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan © 1998 Hillsong Music Publishing (APRA),  
admin. in the US and Canada EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI #678905

(Following the conclusion of this song the children  
are invited forward for the children’s message.)

*“We your people stand before you,  
waterwashed and Spirit born.”*

Children’s Message: Marjo Rouw

We Celebrate the baptism of Mason See – GH pg 960-961

Baptism Prayer:

Pastor: Gracious God,  
we thank you that you cleanse and renew Mason  
through grace alone.  
Bless and strengthen him daily  
with the gift of your Holy Spirit;  
unfold to him the riches of your love,  
deepen his faith, keep him from the power of evil,  
and enable him to live a holy and blameless life  
until your kingdom comes.  
Look with kindness upon his parents.  
Let them rejoice in the gift you have given them.

**People: Grant them the presence of your Holy Spirit  
that they may bring up these children  
to know you, to love you, and to serve you.  
Amen.**

\* Hymn of Thanksgiving: LUYH #805 v. 1-3

*"Our Children, Lord, in Faith and Prayer"*

1. Our children, Lord, in faith and prayer,  
we baptize in your name.  
Let them your covenant mercies share  
as we our faith proclaim.
2. Such children you did once embrace  
while dwelling here below;  
to us and ours, O Lord of grace,  
the same compassion show.
3. In all their days their hearts secure  
from sinful snares, we pray.  
Throughout their lives let them endure  
in every righteous way.

Words: Thomas Haweis (1732-1820), alt., P.D. CCLI #678905

(During the singing of this hymn children ages 3-3rd grade  
are dismissed for Children and Worship)

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

\* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #802 v. 1-3

*“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”*

1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,  
where your cleansing waters flow.  
Number them among your people;  
bless as Christ blessed long ago.  
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;  
compass them with love and light.  
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,  
holy dove and heart’s delight.
  
2. We who bring them long for nurture;  
by your milk may we be fed.  
Let us join your feast, partaking  
cup of blessing, living bread.  
God, renew us, guide our footsteps,  
free from sin and all its snares,  
one with Christ in living, dying,  
by your Spirit, children, heirs.
  
3. Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!  
Unimagined, all your ways!  
To your name be glory, honor!  
With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you,  
water-washed and Spirit-born.  
By your grace, our lives we offer.  
Recreate us: God, transform!

Words: Ruth Duck (b. 1947) © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company CCLI# 678905; Music: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985, ©1985 Augsburg Fortress; One License.net License #A-711218

*“By your grace, our lives we offer.”*

Scripture Readings: Psalm 131 and Romans 6:1-4

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Remembering Baptism”***

## Time of Prayer

### \* Hymn of Application: LUYH #790 v. 1-3 *"Baptized in Water"*

1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,  
faithfully now God's praise we sing.
2. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;  
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praise we sing.
3. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ, our King;  
born of one Father, we are his children,  
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Words: Michael Seward, 1981, © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Company; Music: Gaelic; harm. Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012), 1985, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905

### *"Recreate us: God, transform!"*

### \* We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 69-71

Leader: Q. How does holy baptism remind and assure you that Christ's one sacrifice on the cross benefits you personally?

People: **A. In this way:  
Christ instituted this outward washing  
and with it promised that,  
as surely as water washes away the dirt  
from the body,  
so certainly his blood and his Spirit  
wash away my soul's impurity,  
that is, all my sins.**

Leader: Q. What does it mean to be washed with Christ's blood and Spirit?

**People:**     **A. To be washed with Christ's blood means that God, by grace, has forgiven our sins because of Christ's blood poured out for us in his sacrifice on the cross. To be washed with Christ's Spirit means that the Holy Spirit has renewed and sanctified us to be members of Christ, so that more and more we become dead to sin and live holy and blameless lives.**

**Leader:**    **Q. Where does Christ promise that we are washed with his blood and Spirit as surely as we are washed with the water of baptism?**

**People:**     **A. In the institution of baptism, where he says: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."**

\* God's Blessing

\* Parting Praise: LUYH #797 v. 1-3 *"Sing! A New Creation"*

1. Sing! A new creation calls us:  
God's Son, firstborn from the dead,  
makes the drowning which befalls us  
into cleansing birth instead.  
Singing water, wild with wonder,  
washing, more than what it seems,  
baptizes and drags us under,  
lifts us as our Christ redeems.
2. Sing anew! Creation flowers  
as the Spirit draws us near,  
safe from storming earth-bound powers  
on this ark, though tossed by fear.  
Sing as family, filled, forgiven,  
fed by joyous table-grace.  
Baptized, we receive God's leaven,  
rising in our time and place.



3. Sing, a new creation growing  
 life-trees by the Father's stream.  
 Go and teach, send justice flowing,  
 quench dry souls, compose a dream.  
 Sing amens, alive and agile,  
 answering God's creating song.  
 Baptize peoples, parched and fragile,  
 in the Name that makes us strong.

Words: James Hart Brumm (b. 1962) © 2000 Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.; Music:  
 Thomas J. Williams (1869-1944), 1890, P.D.; CCLI #678905

\* Postlude

<i>Tech Team</i>	<i>Today 7/17</i>	<i>Next Week 7/24</i>
Sound:	Henry VZ	Henry VZ
Projection:	Hannah VH	Beth B.
Video	Devin VZ	Devin VZ
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

*Next Week is Communion Sunday!*



**TAKE AND EAT  
DRINK**

***Creation groans***

*waiting for the children of God to be revealed*

***Creation groans***

*waiting to be born again;*

*waiting to be released from the bondage  
of sin and decay.*

***Creation groans***

*in wars and rumors of war, in signs and wonders.*

*These are the birth pangs that  
come before all things are made new.*

***Creation groans***

*in expectation of being fully restored,  
renewed, and reborn.*

***We groan too***

*for the Spirit of God is in us  
And moving toward all that is yet to be.*

***Come Celebrate!***

***Christ has died, Christ is Risen,***

***Christ will come again!***

# First CRC Bulletin Announcements

**July 17, 2022**

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

*Please join us at an open house celebrating Jack's life on July 24 from 2 to 4 PM at the Mount Vernon Christian School Commons. Around 3 PM there will be a short meditation followed by time for sharing memories and stories about Jack.*

*Jack loved wearing baseball hats (backwards most of the time) – so if you are so inclined, please feel free to wear a baseball hat (backwards or forwards).*

*And if you love to bake, you are welcome to bring cookies along to share at the event. – Henry, Jayne and Josh Hamming*

**Hank Vander Veen is having his 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday on July 23.** The family will be serving birthday cake in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 24 immediately after the service.



**Sign-Up Sheets are in the Fellowship Hall! Attention all First CRC Members! Church Committee Update:** On **Thursday, July 21** the Executive Committee will be meeting to update/approve our current church committee lists. Please heartfully consider if there is a committee you can be a blessing to and have a talent for. There are sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

**There are copies of Today's Christian Living** on the shelf in the hallway by the Missionaries Bulletin Board. There is also an update University Christian Ministries on the bulletin board.



**This morning after the service Beth will be taking pictures** of those who have requested a new directory photo (and those of you who haven't – you are welcome as well). It should be a nice sunny day, so we'll plan to take them outside. Please meet in the fellowship hall after the service.

## **Don't Forget! – Our Summer Block Party**

**is this Saturday, July 23 from Noon** –Hamburgers, hot dogs, corn hole, water fun, other lawn games, etc. will all be provided. Congregational members are encouraged to invite their neighbors and friends. We're looking forward to a great afternoon together and we hope to see you there!

**Worship Service YouTube Link for July 10:** <https://youtu.be/Kpa4MRTHeCw>

**Update:** First CRC offers the option to give your offerings online, including setting up automatic and reoccurring donations. For information on this and other ways to give please check the "Give" page on the church's website: [https://firstcrcmv.com/?page\\_id=1509](https://firstcrcmv.com/?page_id=1509).

## **CALENDAR:**

**Greeters:** This morning – Henry & Sharon Kuipers,

Next week – Katie Jungquist & Jeannette Folkertsma

**Coffee Hosts:** This morning – Mardick & Jill Stevens;

Next week – John & Judy Velasquez

**Worship Team: This Morning** – None

**Next Week** – Stan B., Julie S., Adriana & Tessa S.

## **Upcoming Dates to Note:**

**Men's Bible Study: Tuesday, July 19, 7 am at Shari's Restaurant**

**Executive Meeting: Thursday, July 21, 6:30 pm (Note Time Change!)**

**Summer Block Party! –Saturday, July 23, Noon – 4 pm**

**Open House for Jack Hammingh: Sunday, July 24, 2-4**

## **RECOMMENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Keepers of the Faith gospel quartet** will be in concert at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 5782 Lawrence Rd., Everson, on **July 24 at 6:30pm**. Whatcom County has grown to love this group and the dedication and commitment they have shown in reaching out to so many with God's love and the gospel message. Refreshments will be served immediately following the concert. For more information, please call Dennis Workman at 360-592-5398. Also...please mark your calendars for **Liberty Gospel Quartet** at Faith Community Church, 586 Birch Bay Lynden Rd, Lynden, **October 15, 6:00pm**. More info, call 360-224-4815.

## **ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT**

**Join World Renew today by providing access to clean water-** Every minute a child under the age of 5 dies from illnesses related to unsafe water and sanitation—causing nearly 300,000 child deaths a year.

Today, you have the opportunity to help reduce those preventable deaths by donating to World Renew. Your donation to help provide clean and safe water to the world's most vulnerable communities will help stop the spread of waterborne illnesses, promote health, and demonstrate the love of Jesus. To donate, go to [worldrenew.net/cleanwater](http://worldrenew.net/cleanwater).

**Naaman's Servant Girl: God's Power** - Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Naaman's servant girl was brave enough to show God's love to a powerful enemy, and that allowed God to change a heart and a nation. God's power follows different rules. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

**Groundwork: Your Questions About Spiritual Life** - Engaging the issues and questions challenging our faith as a community benefits us all. Join Groundwork as we study John 11:40-42, 1 John 5:14-15, Jeremiah 29:4-7, Matthew 22:15-22, Psalm 107:43, and more to address your questions about personal faith and daily faith practices, living faithfully in a divided world, and responding biblically when our faith is challenged. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Remembering: Read Psalm 103 and ponder or discuss the following questions. What helps you remember the goodness of God? If someone asked you to tell them about “all [God's] benefits” in your life, which benefits would you remember? What stands out in your past and in your family history? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

**New Podcast Season on Faith Practices** - We're back for Season 2 of Open to Wonder! And this time we're asking big, small, weird, and hard-to-talk-about-in-church questions about faith practices. Listen at [anchor.fm/open-to-wonder](http://anchor.fm/open-to-wonder) or on your favorite podcast app.



How can  
we  
**PRAY**  
for you?

People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Email the office at [secretary@firstcrcmv.com](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com) or call the church office at (336-2405) by 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

**CONTINUING REQUESTS:**

Pray continue to pray for **Alice DeVries' nephew Michael Hendricks**, who has open heart surgery scheduled for this Saturday. It is a huge surgery that comes with a lot of risk, but it is needed.. The entire team weighed the risks of waiting with performing it now due to both valves being infected and the aortic valve leaking; the need exceeds the risk of the microbleeds in the brain. They will replace both valves during this surgery. Please pray for the heart surgeon, Dr. Alberto Pochittino, who is one of the few surgeons who is able to do such a complicated surgery.

**Dennis DeKok:** Please continue to keep Dennis and the De Kok family in your prayers. They were able to get his heart rate back to normal, but he currently has a UTI and is also experiencing a lot of confusion. In all likelihood he will remain at the hospital for several more days. Pray for healing and for God's peace upon the entire family. Psalm 121.

**Sally Reehorn:** Continue to pray that Sally's bruises and pain heal so that she can get around better again.

Pray for strength for **Maxine Greidanus** as she endures weekly chemo treatments for her lung cancer. Keep both Larry and Maxine in your prayers for healing and peace.

Please continue to pray for **Aileen Meishke**, that her bedsore may heal and that her pain will lessen.

Please keep **Agnes Bollema** in your prayers as she recuperates in Lynden.

**Kevin Wigboldy** receives his stem cell transplant from July 5-13. Please keep him in your prayers that all goes smoothly!

Continue to pray for **Shirley Boonstra, Dennis De Kok** and **Adelaida Vega** as they continue to fight their cancer.

**SHUT INS:** **Nell Annema** and **Marion Ekkelkamp** at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; **Marcella DeVries** at Bethany Lutheran in Everett, **Marjean DeGroot** at Mountain View; **Mary Koopmans** at Where the Heart is in Burlington; **Hans & Aileen Meishke** at Kenmore Living in Kenmore, WA, **Adrianna Swanson**, and **Clarence Vander Griend** at Home Place in Burlington; **Sally Reehoorn** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at family in Grandview, WA.

## **OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)**

Monday July 11 - *Resonate: Cambodia*

Resonate missionaries Ly Chhay and Navy Chann Chhay in Cambodia ask you to pray for more healthy and strong churches to be planted.

Tuesday July 12 - *ReFrame: Japan*

Please continue to keep Japanese believers such as "Mr. K." in your prayers. "We would like to express our sincere gratitude to those who have never met us but are praying for us," he shared. "There are times when life is really sad. I was just crying, but when God was at the center, I suddenly gained strength and it became easier."

Wednesday July 13 - *World Renew: Bangladesh*

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has disrupted global food distribution, causing prices to skyrocket, and putting severe strain on families already struggling with food insecurity. In Bangladesh, field staff report that food prices have spiked because key food exports from India have stopped. Pray for the many families struggling with the high cost of essential foods.

Thursday July 14 - *Diaconal Ministries Canada: Equipping deacons*

These past two years have been difficult on congregations and their leaders. Please pray for your deacons as they lead and equip your church to reach out with God's love in your community. May God grant them wisdom and insight as they plan for ministry in these challenging times.

Friday July 15 - *Resonate: Japan*

"Despite COVID-19, or maybe because of it, we are enjoying several baptisms, professions of faith, and new transfers of membership. . . . There are new people at church almost every week! The Lord is at work! More of this, please!" said Resonate missionaries Larry and Ruth Spalink, who serve in Japan.

Saturday July 16 - *The King's University: Guidance*

The King's University has sent out over 400 graduates in the past three years. All have navigated a COVID-impacted education and now must discern how to find work in a post-pandemic world. Please pray for perseverance, joy, and creativity as they continue to bring hope into an ever-changing world.

Sunday July 17 - *World Renew: Clean water*

According to the United Nations, one-third of the world's people (2.3 billion) lack a handwashing facility with water and soap at home—and the consequences can be life threatening, particularly for children. At World Renew, we seek to establish community handwashing solutions in the communities we work in. Please pray for good health and the availability of clean water for all families across the globe.